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PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Oswaldo da Costa e Silva et al.

Serial No. 09/828,302

Filed: April 6, 2001

For: Phosphatase Stress-Related
Proteins and Methods of Use in
Plants

Art Unit: 1638

Examiner: Cynthia Collins

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FEB 05 2003

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Commissioner for Patents
Box Responses
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed August 27, 2002, Applicants submit the present amendments and remarks, and respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the remaining claims. Applicants submit herewith a petition for a two-month extension of time and a check for \$400 to cover the fee for a two-month extension of time.

AMENDMENTS

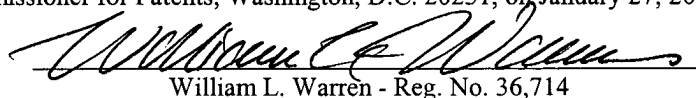
In the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1-40 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add new Claims 41-63 as follows:

41. (New) A transgenic plant cell transformed by a Phosphatase Stress-Related Protein (PHSRP) coding nucleic acid, wherein expression of the PHSRP in the plant cell results in the plant cell's increased tolerance to an environmental stress as compared to a wild type variety of

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on January 27, 2003.



William L. Warren - Reg. No. 36,714